Update on Musquodoboit Harbour Vison & Request for Secondary Planning

Presenters: Deidre Dwyer & Laurie Cook of the Musquodoboit Harbour and Area Community Association

# Musquodoboit Harbour is...

- part of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) but it is 45 minutes east 'downtown' Halifax, Nova Scotia
- a 'regional growth centre' for the Eastern Shore of Nova Scotia under the HRM Regional Plan
- first rural community in HRM that participated as a pilot project in a new community visioning initiative under the Regional Planning Process



### History

- In 2007, vision process included a full year of consultation including public meetings, focus groups, web forum, & priorities survey.
- Results compiled in a report approved by HRM council including action plans for 9 key areas
- After 7 years, the Community Association for Musquodoboit Harbour and area decided to do a 'check-in' to review what had been accomplished to date, and see if the goals were still relevant.

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# Some accomplishments to date include...



- renovation of an old elementary school into a centre for arts, culture & more called 'The Old School Community Gathering Place'
- development of community shuttle called Musgo Rider; based in MH, but serving beyond
- and mostly recently, establishment of a steering committee to look at creating a Chamber of Commerce for the area.

#### The Process for the Community Check-In included...

- 3 meetings in different areas served by Musquodoboit Harbour as a regional centre
- 164 people attended, and there was significant discussion & input on social med
- presentation of a final report that conclud the vision & goals identified in 2007 are still relevant



#### What we need now...

Secondary Planning to make sure municipal policies are aligned to help support our vision.



We want to grow - but in a sustainable way that stays true to the vision of our community as a village.

# Some of the key goals we are still working on include...

- enhancing economic development for the area - and not just MH, but the whole Eastern Shore region
- protecting the environment by preventing 'sprawl'
- enabling upgrading of community facilities
- exploring great variety of development to help seniors age in place & attract new people to the area



# Last Words

All of these goals are inter-related, and many of them need water & sewer in the core of the village.

A secondary plan would help prepare Musquodoboit Harbour for next steps and to be ready to take advantage of federal and provincial funding opportunities.

Musquodoboit Harbour is a community that is ready to grow, wants to grow - but in a manner consistent with its vision. We are asking the Community Council and Regional Council to help us do that.